

Detailed Action

1. This Office Action is submitted in response to the amendment filed 3-7-2008, wherein claims 1 and 2 have been amended; claims 3 and 4 have been canceled. Claims 1, 2, and 5-21 are pending.

2. The amendment filed 3-7-2008 overcomes the prior art cited in the previous Office Action and the rejections therein are hereby withdrawn.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 1, 2, and 5-21 are allowed

Examiner's statement of reasons for allowance

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

4. The prior art discloses a radiation shield comprised of the following lead substitute materials; a silicone-based material, Sn or Sn compounds, W or W compounds, and Bi or Bi compounds (see for example, USPN 7,041,995 to Eder and USPN 6,548,570 to Lange). However, the prior art fails to show these shielding mixtures having the low Sn concentrations recited in claim 1 and the low concentrations of both W and Bi recited in claim 2.

5. Claim 1 is allowed because the prior art fails to show a radiation shield comprised of the following lead substitute materials; from 12 to 22 wt.% of a silicone-

based material, from 1 to 39 wt.% Sn or Sn compounds, from 16 to 60 wt.% W or W compounds, and from 16 to 60 wt.% Bi or Bi compounds.

6. Claim 2 is allowed because the prior art fails to show a radiation shield comprised of the following lead substitute materials; from 12 to 22 wt.% of the silicone-based material, from 40 to 60 wt.% Sn or Sn compounds, from 7 to 15 wt.% W or W compounds and from 7 to 15 wt.% Bi or Bi compounds.

7. Claims 5-21 are allowed by virtue of their dependency upon allowed claims 1 and 2.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications should be directed to Phillip Johnston whose telephone number is (571) 272-2475. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 7:00 am to 4:00 pm. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor Robert Kim can be reached at (571) 272-2293. The fax phone number for the organization where the application or proceeding is assigned is 571 273 8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/David A Vanore/

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2881

PJ
June 6, 2008